## A STRIKE IN FRANCE,

SOME PROBLEMS RAISED BY CONTEM-PORARY SOCIALISM.

Paris, October 7. The strike of the ccal miners in the Pas-de-Calais brings forward, in their acutest form, nearly all the problems raised by contemporary Socialism. What is more, it is here plain to see that these problems urgently demand a solution

in the near future. The mining region of the Pas-de-Calais, to be gin with, is a complete example of nineteenth century speculation based on a concentration of capital in the hands of glant companies able to avail themselves of the perfected means of transportation and machinery brought in by the use steam power. The speculation has been succcasful, and the leaders of the strike do not fail to publish the details. The Company of Lens may be taken as an example. It is the member of the new Chamber of Deputies from Lens, M. Basly, who has put himself at the head of the present agitation as president of the syndicate or union of the miners of the Pas-de-Calais. Ten years ago he was himself a miner, and in 1884 he was largely responsible for the unsuccessful strike in the neighboring mines of Anzin, with all its attendant bitterness and misery. He was afterward a saloon-keeper, and so, by the operation of a natural law not unknown in America, worked his way up to political eminence.

The Company of Lens was founded in 1855, with a nominal capital of 3,000,000 francs held in shares of 1,000 francs each. These shares were actually paid in only 300 francs apiece, the profits from the first being sufficient to carry on the work. At the end of last year the share was quoted at 28,000 francs, and the last dividend was 1,000 francs per year. In these thirty-seven years, therefore, concludes the report of the M.ners' Syndicate, the increase of value per share has been 27,700 francs-an average of 750 francs (\$150) a year-over and above the dividends received. This may well dazzle the minds of those who contemplate only the \$60 originally

The company of the mines of Lens, on its side, blames the signers of the report for presenting thus crudely to the workingmen statistics which to say the least, are far from being complete. It declares that it has devoted nearly 60,000,000 francs to the establishment of its pits, railways and the like, and to schools and workingmen's houses, as well as to the necessary material and machinery. Now the 3,000,000 francs which it pays yearly to the stockholders is only 5 per cent on this "immobilized capital," while the annual wages paid to miners and to other workingmen in materials and transportation amount to a full 15,000,000 francs per year. It is curious to note that the company should feel obliged to make a statement of this kind under pressure from the Miners' Union. It is a significant commentary on the terms of equality on which organized capital in France is now obliged to treat with

The Company presents its conclusion some feeling: "Has the union the pretension to reproach the company with knowing how to give value to the mineral riches which it has dis covered under the barren plains of Lens, with contributing largely to the enriching of a country once so poor, with giving to its industry se great a development that to-day it supports 45,000 inhabitants and pays 8,400 workmen wages which have a general average (for pit and surface workers, big and little together) that has risen in 1892 and 1893 to 4 francs 76 centimes (about 95 cents) per working day? And this average does not comprise the side advantages of lodgings at reduced prices, of free heating, of pensions for the invalided, aid for the families f those in the army reserve, etc., etc."

All this goes to show that there is much to be said on both sides. The risks of the speculation have surely to be taken into account. Of the twenty-one companies which have engaged in orking the coal basin of the Pas-de-Calais nine have already been put in the hands of receivers after swallowing up more than 30,000,000 francs in establishing themselves and exploring the ground. In all France, in the year 1888, 127 mines were worked at a loss, to 165 that brought some profit to the companies. In Belgium, in same year, out of 260 concessions made by the Etrte, only 133 mines were actually worked, and of these forty-two were worked at a loss, It must also be remembered that only this concentration of capital and of the means of produc tion, with all its attendant risks, makes it possible to supply constant work and to secure a fairly assured livelihood to the workers.

In fact, the present strike does not profess to be based on any harsh and intolerable conditions of the miners' life. Its demand is not for compassion, but for a certain strict equity in the relations between the employers and the em-This is precisely the weakness of th strike, and it gauges well the effect which purely socialistic demands produce on the average in tellizence. But it also shows the progress of a Simon-pure Socialism that can thus lead the unions, which now all but rule labor, to throw 42,660 miners out of work indefinitely. Here is a population well fed, well housed, well paid and well provided for the future, which suddenly, at the bidding of a few political agitators talking of equality of human conditions, lays aside work, condemns itself to the evils of inaction, to the loss of past savings and future prospects-and for what? To secure a theoretically just ratio between the profits of capital and the wages of labor.

This is not all. Socialism is a system of gov omen' that would have society, as organized into a State, regulate all the relations of private property among individuals. Until recently such

This is not all. Schelinen is a system of government that would have society, as of privile fine a State, regular dusts. Util recently such schelines will be a meaning the strikes. The establishes will be a meaning the system of the system

the miners' union and the company in 1891-a period when the coal market was far more properous-has been adhered to through the late depression of prices. Few of the actual miners gain less than six francs (\$1 20) for their working day of eight hours and a half. The day is divided by two relays. The first is from early morning until two in the afternoon, when the miner is free for his family or his amusement The second is from two on into the night.

Some years ago Zola, in his "Germinal," drew a picture of the life of these miners in those strong, dark lines which his admirers imagine to be realism. Even so, it was infinitely less terrible than Disraell's account of the English in the ranks of their leading singers. The latest Black Country some fifty years ago. That the life in the mines is preferable to many other McIntosh-or Macintosh, as the London papers kinds of manual labor may be seen from two persist in spelling it. She is a native of Cleveland plain facts daily verified. Nearly all these miners are recruited from the class of peasant farmers, and there are not too many farming hands in France. Moreover, in spite of all the pressure from the unions, workmen in the neighboring mines obstinately refuse to strike.

Even at Lens, the strike is openly attributed to that peculiar class of agitators who are called "lieutenants" and "the flower of the strike." These are the under officers of the union. They are able to terrorize the Socialist Deputies into countenancing their manoeuvres by reason of their supposed influence over the voters of the mining districts. They are feared by the miners, to whom the union is almost a necessity. And they are in league with the saloon-keepers, who never do a more thriving business than during the first idle weeks of a strike. These lieuten ants have nothing to lose. If the strike fails, it is Deputies like Basly and Lamendin, whom they have forced into sanctioning the strike, that will be ruined politically. They have everything to gain. The failure would remove mer, who often stand in the way of their own political ambitions; while the success of the strike will make themselves favorably known for future oppor-

All this, by itself, would be but a common place of that vulgar labor agitation which may cour anywhere, and is a veritable exploitation plishment she lacks. For her transatlantic adof the laborer. The portentous side of the affair is that when the strike has been decided on there should be chosen as its turning point so preposterous a demand as this for the double and in proof thereof can show you a beautiful note of pay. It discloses the definite tendency of trade unionism to bring about a condition of She can shoat and fence, and play baseball and affairs from which the only refuge will be an cricket. She can swim and dive, and would rather unmitigated State socialism. This is not peculiar to France, perhaps even it is the working of an cold tub and dumbbells. their demands to a logical conclusion, aided by

French people along this line. The principle of likewise was charmed, and forthwith engaged her State arbitration between capital and labor was for the leading part in "Utopia, Limited." their admitted, incantiously and to the satisfaction of latest work at the Savoy Theatre. neither party, by M. Loubet, the predecessor of the present Prime Minister, at the time of the strike of Carmaux. A law of December 27, 1892, and preparation of them. The authors, of course, even prescribes that the justices of the peace "personally conduct" the show, or rather, Mr. Gil-shall officially invite, in case of strike, both bert does, while Sir Arthur beams benignly upon shall officially invite, in case of strike, both companies and workingmen to settle their disputes by arbitration. This has been done in the present strike in both the Departments of the Pas-de-Calais and of the Nord, where the miners have joined with their neighbors. But arbitration the presented upon the Savoy stage such scenes as tion which either party is free to reject has proved itself miserally inefficient. The actual relations between employers and employed at Lens, for example, are the result of a mutual arrangement made only two years ago; and from this the miners' union has now withdrawn almost without previous notice. The company

arrangement made only to be a withdrawn almost without previous notice. The company naturally has refused to have anything to do with a new arbitration which would only repeat the old odious experience. It is clearly seen on both sides that arbitration, to be of any practical value, must be compulsory, and, consequently, a matter of State intervention.

This is recognized not by Radicais and Socialists alone. Nearly every political group which thought it worth its while at the late elections to court the workingmen's votes by occupying itself with the labor question, put forward the principle that legislation ought to determine the minimum of wages and the maximum of hours of daily labor. In practice this would doubtless disappoint the workingmen, who are none too willing that the rate of wages should fluctuate with the market. But it would also subject the companies to the dictation of also subject the companies to the dictation government overseers. It would even must severely all that free use and organizing of capital and the means of production which give the right of existence to industrial enterprise and financial speculation. This certainly is a near approach to socialism of the purest water; for the essence of socialism is to substitute public for private manipulation of organized capital. It is true that even French Socialists never ex-

the essence of socialism of the fullest water; for the essence of socialism is to substitute public for private manipulation of organized capital.

It is true that even French Socialists never explain how capital is to be organized in the first place without private enterprise, which can also hardly continue to exist without some free scope for its operations. But this is another question. In the matter of the present strikes it is sufficient to note the definite tendency of all recent French politics to restrict the free movement of private enterprise and to enlarge the sphere of State Intervention.

Count Albert de Mun, a lender of the "rallied" Republicans, in spite of being the grandson of a Bourbon Minister, is the chief organizer of those associations of Catholic workingmen which have risen to such importance in France and Belgium during the last few years. He would hardly accept the name even of Christian Socialist, though it is freely applied to the movement which he represents. Yet his whole system of social reform is based on the organization of labor in imitation of the workingmen's guilds and corporations of the Middle Ages. Just as they furnished the artisans with a needed offset to the influence of the privileged classes of a fendal society, so organization to-day must give labor a footing to treat on equal terms with organized capital. He sorrowfully acknewledges that this has so far resulted in a downright civil war of organized interests, compared to which competition in trade is simple child's play. And he loyally goes on to accept the inev'table consequence, by right and necessity, of State intervention; for it belongs to the State to judge and appease the discensions among its citizens. The resolutions of the September congress of the Catholic Socialist lead-

A SAVOY REHEARSAL.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN IN CHARGE, AND A NEW YANKEE PRIMA DONNA.

London is enjoying at present the double treat of new Gilbert and Sullivan opera and a new American singer. A good deal of enthusiasm has been expressed over both, but perhaps rather more, proportionately, for the latter than for the form They have, in late years, got into the habit of admiring-not to say gushing over-American prime donne, so that now they do it with the skill brough by long practice. As one writer over there there are so many Americans and so few English thus far, of Pittsburg the Smoky. Her father was a leading member of the fishing club whose lake burst its bounds and destroyed the city of Johns-



Doubtless Miss McIntosh is a good fisher too. If she isn't, that is about the only accomgold medal, the prize of a ladies' sculling match. begin a day without her breakfast than forego her

After the Johnstown disaster Mr. McIntosh took to France, perhaps even it is the working the france of th The outrageous demands of extreme Socialists only distract the public attention from the progress already made by the French State and the French people along this line. The principle of

and Savoy chorus as can conveniently crowd into the

dearest, I have been'-what are the words? ah! thanks-'Yes, dearest'-and so on. You see?"

In this way the action and the interpretation of the dialogue are fashloned and determined. Mr. Gilbert has an eye and an ear and an opinion for everything. He knows precisely what he wants andas our advertisers at times beseech us to do-he sees that he gets it. His manner has been described as military; certainly there is an air of military decision about him, but it is a decision which mands the approval as well as the respect of those whom it guides. It is the private, and probably the well-founded opinion of the members of the company that Mr. Gilbert formulates in his mind the whole course of a scene or of any particular part of it before he comes down to the theatre, and models the actual performance on that in-

After the duet a trio. Sir Arthur Sullivan sits down at the piano, plays a "lively prelude fash-loning the way in which the voice must wander;" and the voices, after one break away, stip gilbly into the run of the tune. "Time has played his little joke." sings Mr. Barrington, partly to Mr. Gilbert, who sits solemnly facing him at a distance of some three feet. "Comes at last the final stroke!"—little pause after 'stroke,' eh?— Comes at last the final stroke'-you know, there's somebody buzzing there at the back."
"Ladles! ladies!" interjects Mr. Harris, "a little

less noise, if you please!"

'Comes at last the final stroke!" "-at last the trio is finished to satisfaction, and Sir Arthur resigns his seat. The sharpest contrast is obvious between the two collaborators at rehearsal: Mr. Gilbert, with his anxious appreciation and an observation as sensitive as a photographic plate; and Sir Arthur Sullivan with his appearance of having come prepared to be pleased with everything. last notes of the trio, gone over for the last

time, tinkle into silence, when suddenly, as Mr. Rider Haggard would say, a strange thing pens. The theatre suddenly lights up, and the electric lights of the auditorium, tier above tier, begin to glow brightly, "sky cloths" begin to descend magically from the flies, palace walls are pushed forward with mysterious rapidity; and at the back of the stage a moon, which hitherto has the back of the stage a moon, which hitherto has occupied a position of decent obscurity, enters on a new phase. Mr. Harris may be heard addressing the scene-shifters in the language of emotion. The "big scene" is coming on, and Mr. Gilbert wishes to see how it would look from the stalls when the theatre is lighted up.

"I think, Mr. Harris, that we will dispense with those streen lights," he observes, "Spoils the effect, ch".

Mr. Harris appears L. U. E. a little flushed after his exertions.

ere is, therefore, an interval of ten minutes

know."

There is, therefore, an interval of ten minutes, which the ladies of the chorus devote to calling in Art to the aid of Nature, and in which Sir Arthur chats to his friends in the boxes. Mr. D'Oxiy Carte returns to his stage-box and to his corresponsience, Usually he watches the rehearsals and writes at the same time. He suffers many interruptions, and the presence of as admirer more or less does not ruffle him in the least.

"I can talk and write as well, if you don't mind," he says; "but, really, you ought not to question me, but Mrs. Carte She's the business woman, and she really can do two things at a time-six, I believe. She will be down here in a moment."

The scratch of the pen accompanies Mr. D'Oyly Carte's remarks.

"We're getting near the end of the rehearsals now, you see. It is not till this week that they're so complete. You see we haven't the band yet; all the rehearsals go to the plane. The band is practised separately at St. Andrew's Hall. On Tuesday and Wednesday the voices are tried with the band—still at St. Andrew's Hall, and for the muste only. On Thursday and Friday we have full dress rehearsals. On Saturday—

"Comes at last the final stroke."

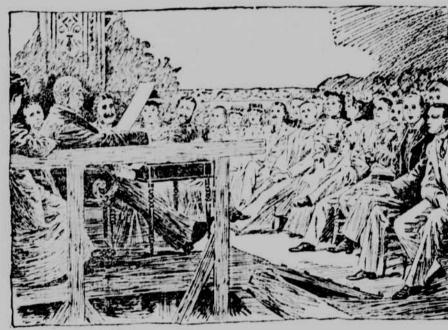
A knock at the door and an interruption—a welcome one, for it is Mrs. D'Oyly Carte. "Mrs.

A knock at the door and an interruption—a wel-come one, for it is Mrs. D'Oyly Carte. "Mrs. Carte." pursues Mr. Carte, "will tell you all about the early rehearsals."

They're very different from these," says Mrs. Carte. "because it is only at this stage that all

your real simon-pure lover of theatrical fun would enjoy above all things else.

The comedy begins, says this writer, at a little before three o'clock, when as many ladies of the Savoy chorus as can conveniently crowd into the stage door office are sipping tea there and chatter-



MR. GILBERT READING "UTOPIA" TO THE SAVOY COMPANY.

ing about their dresses. The hallkeeper, who has obligingly renounced his chair, is presiding over the commissariat with an air semi-paternal and wholly benignant. Just on 3 a bell trills from the armory of whistles and telephones at the back of the office, the stage doorkeeper says, "All ladies down, please?" and with a few courageous efforts to deal summarily with cups of hot tea, the pretty down, please?" and with a few courageous efforts to deal summarily with cups of hot tea, the pretty company flutters and rustles down the stairs to the

a gleam of pale September sunshine wars with the yellow glare of the floats. An electric lamp in Mr. D'Oyly Carte's box is the only spot of light in the funereal theatre, where a few of the company are gossiping in the stalls, and one or two visitors are whispering in the boxes. The plane and Mr. W. S. Gilbert, which may, perhaps, be spoken of together

and the entrances.

"Do you keep the same chorus from opera to opera?"

"Well, we can hardly do that," she replies.
"They are bound to change a good deal; but they change less than the principal. Let me see who are left-well, there's Mr. Barrington and Miss Hrandram—I think they've been here since the first, and Mr. Denny has been a long time; but this is an anusually new company."

"I have often wondered how you 'cast' your companies."

"Well, of course, so far as the principals are concerned, that is a matter of special arrangement, but so far as the choruses, there is no difficulty in finding these. Since Mr. Carte began these operas with 'The Sorcerer in 18n, we have accumulated 7,000 names on our books, with the voice the appearance and the ability of each lady of gentleman carefully catalogued."

"But 7,000, Mrs. Carte!—what can you do with them."

"But 7,000, Mrs. Carte!—what can you do with them."

"Well, you see," said Mrs. Carte, "we have five provincial companies now. A provincial company of 'topia, Limited,' itself will be sent out in about six weeks, and another at Christmas."

"Mrs. FOyly Carte hasn't told you, 'said Mr Carte, 'that it is she who manages these companies, arranges all the dates, all the bookings we are booked up to the end of 1894—and every other detail of organization. I have an idea that she does it by some kind of conjuring with a map of England and a 'Bradshaw."

"You generally have a company in America?"

"Not now," said Mr. Carte, "though I prefer to send my own companies out. If you sell an American manager the rights he is apt to introduce in novations. They introduce a ballet into one of the operas, and in the 'Finafore' had girls for sailors.

As we watched Mr. Gilbert still anxiously directing, still polishing to the pattern his own design portains. They introduce a ballet into one of the poeras, and in the Pfinafore had girls for sailors. As we watched Mr. Gilbert still anxiously directing, still poishing to the pattern his own design he smallest detail, it was rather interesting to speculate apon his probable state of mind if he was a hallet introduced into the Yeomen of the Baard. He was out of reach of such disturbing effections here, being engaged, in fact, with a Misress of Deportment in Idealizing the courtesys of he ladies of the chorus. "A little lower down and proad the train," said the Mistress of Deportment. "Spread each other's trains, ladies!" echoed fr. Gilbert (and we could hear Mr. Charles liarriaguiring sarcastically of some of the ladies nearest on him if they imagined they were laying a table doth, "And slide the feet, ladies! Oh, slide the eet," continued Madame X.—, with an unconclous reminiscence of the hard case of Mr. Bultiude.
"Mr. Gilbert seems anxious." I said, "It must

"Mr. Gilbert seems anxious." I said. "It mus Mr. Gilbert seems anxious the rather a trial to him on first nights."
"He never comes," said Mr. Carte, "Sir Arthur Sullivan and myself are present; but Mr. Gilbert generally walks on the Embankment, Last time he spent the evening at the Galety."

> " THE GREAT COUNTRIES" By Michael Field. Death, for all thy grasping stealth Thou dost convey
> Lands to us of broadest wealth,
> That stretch away
> Where the sunshine hath no foll,
> Past the verge of our dark soil,
> Past the rim where clouds uncoil.

Mourners, whom thing avarice dooms,
Once given a space
In thy kingdom past the tombs,
With open face
See the smallness of our skies,
Large, until a mortal dies
And shrinks them to created size,

O the freedom, that doth spread, When life is shown.
The great countries that the dead
Have open thrown;
Where, at our best leisure, wa
With a spirit may walk free
From terrestrial poverty. THE AMERICAN CARDINAL.

HIS PECULIAR PLACE IN THE HIERARCHY OF THE CHURCH HERE. LIBERAL AND AMERICAN OPINIONS AN INHER

ITANCE FROM HIS PREDECESSORS IN THE TOLLI-HIS FUNCTIONS AS A CARDINAL-THE POSSIBIL. ITY OF HIS SUCCES. SION TO THE . CHAIR OF ST.

ccurred here last Wednesday and Thursday to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the elevation of Cardinal Gibbons to the episcopacy, the Catholic Church of the United States participated with a heartiness and cordiality which certainly would have availed to no other prelate. This was not due primarily to the Cardinal's office, exalted as it is and surrounded with traditions that appeal so much to the imagination. Nor was it due to his native ability, his scholarship, or his achievements. In none of these is he unexcelled among the heirarchy of the American Church. It is not claimed for him that his abilities

be now, in the march of progress, emphatically bandoned. Many foreigners feel that in the effect, was heightened and rendered most imposing when the Pope's Delegate, Archbishop Satolli, preceding the Cardinal, and each walking alone, ascended to their separate thrones. The very loneliness of their figures served to concentrate attention upon them. The Delegate was simply dressed, the Cardinal resplendently, but neither seemed the kind of man on whem the appared of high dignity sat with grace. The dignity itself seemed appropriate enough to their pale, intellectual faces, fine with an expression of purity and strength. But that which makes the entrance of Richelieu in the play so effective was wanting in the scene about the altar of the Cathedral here. This Cardinal looked like a good man, not like a great one; like a man whom all must love, not like one whom any need fear; and it seemed as if, should he put off the red silk beretta and cast aside the red robes, the long train, and the purple vestments, and stand out only the simple-minded American gentleman who, as Archbishop of Baltimore, and controversies. It would not be a surprising result of the policy that Leo XIII has in-augurated, taken in connection with the general stituation in Europe, if his successor should prove to be James Cardinal Gibbons.

THE "SORCERER OF THE MINE."

From The Pail Mall Gazette.

Miners in all countries have been noted for their superstituous beliefs as to various matters affecting superstitious beliefs as to various matters affecting superstitious beliefs as to various matters affecting rain, and the purple vestments, and stand out only the simple-minded and broad-minded American gentleman who, as Archbishop of Baltimore, and the purple vestment of the product of the purple vestment of the red silk bereta and cast asside the red robes, the long train, and the purple vestments, and stand out only the simple minded and broad minded and broad minded and broad many over the satisfactory results which are nowally and the purple wes

on when the appared of high dignity sat with consign to their pale, intellectual faces, fine with an expression of purity and strength into that which make ever the way wanting the scene about the airar of the Cathedral bove. This Cardinal booke like a nood may be the strength of the country of the real through the real through the real through the country of the real through through the real through through the real through the real through through t

bons's shortly after the death of Cardinal Mo-Closkey does not necessarily confer on its pos-sessor any greater power than he held before. As a Cardinal he is, in an especial sense, the adviser of the Pope. He is entitled to be con-sulted on questions of policy, and it is to be presumed that his views will have great weight at Rome, and on American questions that they will be, if not prevailing, at least of very great authority. For it is presumed that he will recognize his exceptional position and the re-sponsibility it involves and speak impartially, frankly, without reservation, but with great care to be fair to all persons and all points bons's shortly after the death of Cardinal Morecognize his exceptional position and the responsibility it involves and speak impartially, frankly, without reservation, but with great care to be fair to all persons and all points involved. As a member of the Sacred College he is theoretically in charge of a Roman parish and concerned with the Pontiff in the government of the Church. By the Pope's assignment he is a member of numerous committees or "congregations," as they are apt to be called. His highest function is the casting of a vote to fill the Chair of St. Peter, and his highest attribute the quality of being himself voted for for that supreme distinction. There is no law which forbids the election of any Catholic as Pope. Indeed, the law expressly allows the Cardinals to elect whom they please, but the unwritten law, the practice of four centuries and a half, substantially requires them to elect only a man who has been invested with the Cardinalate. Only a wearer of the purple can now hold the keys of Heaven. These relations and possibilities, while they give to Cardinal Gibbons a peculiar dignity and a peculiar influence, do not extend his jurisdiction as a member of the American hierarchy. He is an Archbishop, one of a body each of whom is supreme in his own territory, but the Cardinal has no legal authority over the other Archbishops. He is simply that one of them who, by virtue of another office, gives counsel to the Pope, aids him in the government of the Church universal, vote for his successor and is himself eligible to the Pontificate.

When Monsignor Satolli came here last sum-

tailve ability, his scholarship, or his achievements. In none of these is he uneveiled a mong the heirarchy of the American Church. It is not climed for him that his abilities sense cultivated, or that he has accomplished destored the state of the control of th